

**CITY of BRIDGEPORT  
CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION  
MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2012  
6:30 PM**

ATTENDANCE: Council members: Brannelly, Colon, Olson, Brantley, T. McCarthy, Austin, Vizzo-Paniccia, dePara, Silva, Ayala, Paoletto, Baker, Holloway

ABSENT: Council members: M. McCarthy, Taylor-Moye, Lyons, Bonney, Blunt, Martinez, Curwen

Council President McCarthy stated that a quorum wasn't required to conduct the public speaking session.

He noted that one of the council member's sister passed away and she was attending the wake.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSON HAS REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2012, AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

*The following speakers signed up prior to the public speaking session:*

**NAME**

**SUBJECT**

John Marshall Lee

Mr. Lee spoke about the annual budget and the problem of internal audits not being completed for several years. He said there was a big problem of information not being submitted by the administration. He referred to some charts that outlined the budget reports that should be submitted and he questioned why they aren't according to the charter. He further noted that New Haven, Hartford and Stamford all submit monthly budget reports that are posted on the Internet for public viewing. He offered some suggestions regarding the submittal of budget reports. He requested the submittal of internal audit reports from prior years beginning the year 2009 to current. He emphasized that as a taxpayer, he was frustrated with the lack of information.

Cecil Young

Mr. Young spoke about the refusal he was given to obtain a permit to use a microphone to go out into the public to speak about public health issues. He mentioned that he has observed others using microphones throughout the city for other purposes and he felt that he should be given the same right.

Clyde Nicholson spoke about his suggestion for the use of a video arrest system. He explained that the reason for the request is due to the numerous killings that have occurred in Bridgeport. He stressed that the cameras have proven to be effective when arrests occur and other purposes.

He mentioned the proposed curfew and he stated that according to the constitution, an imposed curfew is illegal. He quoted the constitution that reads “*people have the right to assemble*” and he said it doesn’t specify the hours or time of day. He emphasized that videotaping has proven to work to record incidents that take place – *he used the example of the Rodney King case and the alleged incident that occurred with Cecil Young in council chambers*. He repeated his concern about violating someone’s right if the curfew is passed.

The public hearing session closed at 6:55 pm.

*Council President McCarthy called for a brief caucus prior to the city council meeting.*

*The caucus ended at 7:15 pm.*

**CITY of BRIDGEPORT  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2012  
7:00 PM**

**City Council Chambers, City Hall - 45 Lyon Terrace  
Bridgeport, Connecticut**

**ATTENDANCE:** Council members: Brannelly, M. McCarthy, Colon, Taylor-Moye, Olson, Brantley, T. McCarthy, Austin, Vizzo-Paniccia, Bonney, Blunt, dePara, Silva, Ayala, Paoletto, Baker, Holloway

**ABSENT:** Council members: Lyons, Martinez, Curwen

Council President McCarthy called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm.

Prayer - Council member Olson offered the prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance - Council member Bonney led the pledge of allegiance.

Moment of Silence

Council President McCarthy asked for a moment of silence for Council member Lyons sister (Celeste Bologna) who passed away.

Roll call - the city clerk took the roll call and she announced there was a quorum.

Announcements from Council President McCarthy:

- Council member Lyons was attending her sister's wake.
- Council member Curwen was recovering from surgery.
- Council member Martinez was on vacation.

## MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Approval of City Council Minutes: March 19, 2012

- \*\* COUNCIL MEMBER VIZZO-PANICCIA MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES**
- \*\* COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY SECONDED**
- \*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

## COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

- 74-11** Communication from City Attorney re: Twenty day notice to Settle Litigation pursuant to Municipal Code Section 2.10.130: Xavier Longwa and Robert Newkirk, **ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.**
- 75-11** Communication from WPCA re: WPCA'S Fiscal 2012-2013 Proposed Budget, **ACCEPTED AND MADE PART OF THE RECORD.**
- 76-11** Communication from Labor Relations re: Proposed Tentative Agreement with Police Union AFSCME Local 1159 regarding their Bargaining Unit Contract, referred to Contracts Committee.
- 77-11** Communication from Mayor re: Appointment of Patrick M. Dower (R) to the Historic Commission #1 District as an alternate, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.
- 78-11** Communication from Mayor re: Appointment of Richard G. Chokas (D) to the Ethics Commission as an alternate, referred to Miscellaneous Matters Committee.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER COLON SECONDED**

**\* *Council member dePara abstained from voting on item 74-11 - Reason: one of the individuals involved was a friend of his.***

**\*\* MOTION PASSED WITH SEVENTEEN VOTES IN FAVOR AND ONE ABSTENTION (COUNCIL MEMBER dePARA)**

**MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):**

Council President McCarthy asked if there were any items to be removed from the consent calendar.

There were none heard.

The city clerk read the consent calendar items into the record.

**\*71-11** Contracts Committee Report re: Professional Service Agreement with BL Companies for Design Services related to Downtown Intermodal Urban Design Enhancement & Implementation.

**\*72-11** Contracts Committee Report re: Agreement with Constellation New Energy, Inc. regarding Detailed Energy Audit Services.

**\*69-11** Budget & Appropriations Committee Report re: Budget Modification to the FY 2011-2012 General Fund Budget: Increase Line Item 01827000 55540 BOE Tuition (\$1,522,873) and Increase the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) Revenue Line Item 01863000 44520 (\$1,522,873).

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- 73-11** Resolution presented by Council Member Olson re: A Resolution Supporting the Abolishment of the Law Authorizing Capital Punishment in Connecticut.

Council member Olson stated that this item was now moot because - *Connecticut became the 17th state to abolish the death penalty after the Senate passed a bill early Thursday morning repealing capital punishment. The 20-16 vote came at 2:05 a.m., after more than 10 hours of debate.*

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER OLSON MOVED TO WITHDRAW ITEM 73-11**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

New business:

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING ITEM 49-11 TO THE AGENDA– RE: RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE BRIDGEPORT CHILDREN’S BILL OF RIGHTS FOR EDUCATION**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER dePARA SECONDED**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY MOVED TO ADD ITEM 49-11 TO THE AGENDA RE: RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE BRIDGEPORT CHILDREN’S BILL OF RIGHTS FOR EDUCATION**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BLUNT SECONDED**

Council member Olson commented that the “Children’s Bill of Rights” is very important and spending more money on education should be included in the budget.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER M. McCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 49-11 TO THE AGENDA RE: RESOLUTION TO ENDORSE THE BRIDGEPORT CHILDREN’S BILL OF RIGHTS FOR EDUCATION**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED**

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR THE**  
**PURPOSING OF REFERRING AN ITEM TO COMMITTEE**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO REFER RE: ESG SUBSTANTIAL**  
**AMENDMENT PY37 TO THE ECONOMIC and COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**  
**and ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Other business:

Council President recognized Barbara Richards and her classmates from Housatonic Community College that were visiting. He said he spoke to the class two weeks ago and they are taking a class on Bridgeport government. He noted that they have met with numerous government leaders. He expressed that he was proud and impressed by the level of commitment by the students in the class.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES FOR THE**  
**PURPOSE OF ADDING AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA FOR IMMEDIATE**  
**CONSIDERATION**  
**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**  
**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO ADD ITEM 63-11 RE: CLUB CAR**  
**INC. LEASE AGREEMENT TO THE AGENDA**

She explained the reason for the immediate consideration was because the lease expired and they will be without golf carts if the agreement isn't approved tonight.

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED**

Council member Vizzo-Paniccia clarified that the item was previously delayed a couple of times in committee; so that's the reason for adding the item to the agenda for immediate consideration.

Council President McCarthy commented that they need the revenue from the golf carts; so it was important to approve it.

**\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED TO APPROVE ITEM 63-11 CLUB  
CAR INC. LEASE AGREEMENT AS AMENDED; INCLUSIVE OF SCHEDULE-A  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER SILVA SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO ADJOURN  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham  
Telesco Secretarial Services